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## THE BMA'S FRONT ROOM SERIES CONTINUES WITH ELLSWORTH KELLY EXHIBITION

**BALTIMORE, MD** (October 10, 2007)—The *Front Room* series at The Baltimore Museum of Art continues with an exhibition of several works by Ellsworth Kelly. One of the most influential artists in contemporary art, Kelly's canvases—inspired by organic and architectural forms—defy traditional notions of framing and symmetry in painting. **Front Room: Ellsworth Kelly**, on view **November 14, 2007 – February 17, 2008**, transforms the *Front Room* gallery into a spare and spacious environment for viewing art, and one that allows the sculptural dimension of Kelly's work to shine through.

The exhibition will feature nine of Kelly's most iconic works of art drawn from the Museum's collection, such as his *Brushstrokes Cut into Twenty-Seven Squares and Arranged by Chance* (1951). Other highlights of the exhibition include works from private collections in the Baltimore area such as *Green Red Yellow Blue* (1966), recently added as a promised gift to the BMA's collection. Composed of four rectangular canvases of saturated color, this impressive work spans almost nine feet of the gallery wall and demonstrates how Kelly's art is amply suited to the demands of architectural settings.

The BMA has had a long commitment to Kelly that began nearly 30 years ago with the acquisition of *Diagonal with Curve II* (1978), and has grown over the years with the addition of another major painting, a powerful stainless steel sculpture, and an important group of prints, many of them gifts from the artist—a frequent visitor to the BMA.

This exhibition is curated by BMA Senior Curator of Contemporary Art Darsie Alexander. The *Front Room* series is generously sponsored by The Rouse Company Foundation.

### ABOUT THE BALTIMORE MUSEUM OF ART

The Baltimore Museum of Art is home to an internationally renowned collection of 19th-century, modern, and contemporary art. Founded in 1914 with a single painting, the BMA today has 90,000 works of art—including the largest holding of works by Henri Matisse in the world. Throughout the Museum, visitors will find an outstanding selection of European and American fine and decorative arts, 15th- through 19th-century prints and drawings, works by established and emerging contemporary artists, and objects from Africa, Asia, the Ancient Americas, and Pacific Islands. Two beautifully landscaped gardens display an array of 20th-century sculpture that is an oasis in the city. As a major cultural destination for the greater

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Baltimore region, the BMA organizes and presents a variety of dynamic exhibitions and innovative programs throughout the year, and frequently hosts special events with cultural and educational partners. The Museum is located in a park-like setting in the heart of Charles Village and adjacent to the main campus of The Johns Hopkins University. It is distinguished by a grand historic building designed in the 1920s by renowned American architect John Russell Pope with an impressive wing for contemporary art added in 1994.

**VISITOR INFORMATION**

General admission to the BMA is free. Special exhibitions may be ticketed. The BMA is open Wednesday through Friday, 11 a.m.– 5 p.m.; Saturday and Sunday, 11 a.m. – 6 p.m. The Museum is closed Monday, Tuesday, New Year’s Day, July 4, Thanksgiving, and Christmas. The BMA is located on Art Museum Drive at North Charles and 31st Streets, three miles north of Baltimore’s Inner Harbor. For general Museum information, call 443-573-1700 or visit [artbma.org](http://artbma.org).

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